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# CHRONOLOGY OF INTERNATIONAL EVENTS AND DOCUMENTS

*Supplement to*  
**THE WORLD TODAY**

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6—19 April 1950

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ALBANIA. 13 *Apr.*—*Corfu Channel*. Conversations opened in Paris between an Albanian and a British delegation in connection with the settlement of the Corfu incident of 1946 for which the International Court had awarded damages to be paid to Britain.

ARAB LEAGUE. 6 *Apr.*—*Jerusalem*. The Political Committee, meeting in Cairo, approved the U.N. plan for Jerusalem subject to reservations. Jordan, who opposed the principle of internationalization, took no part in the debate.

8 *Apr.*—The Council decided to ban supplies for ships going to Israel, to 'blacklist' ships suspected of working for Israel, and to refuse a visa to any person bearing an Israeli visa on his passport.

9 *Apr.*—The political committee unanimously approved a collective security pact, complete with military and economic sections.

12 *Apr.*—*Palestine*. The Political Committee accepted the proposal of the U.N. Palestine Conciliation Commission to set up joint Arab-Jewish committees to discuss, under its supervision, a final Palestine settlement. Abdul Azzam Pasha, the League Secretary, said later that Arab acceptance did not imply direct negotiations with Israel, and was made on condition that Israel accepted beforehand the U.N. decisions on Palestine, including the 1947 partition resolution and the Lausanne protocol, as a basis of discussion, and that the Conciliation Commission completed its task before the next U.N. General Assembly.

13 *Apr.*—*Security Pact*. At the final meeting of the Council all the members, including Jordan, signed the collective security pact which provided for a permanent staff committee and a joint defence council, consisting of the Foreign Ministers and Defence Ministers of the contracting Powers, to unify plans for meeting aggression. It provided *inter alia* that an attack on any signatory State should be regarded as an attack on all; that military alliances between any two Arab States be forbidden; and that no international agreement be in conflict with the pact.

The Council also endorsed the political committee's resolution against the making of a separate peace with Israel by member States, and approved the appointment of a committee to draw up plans for the establishment of an Arab Court of Justice. All the members except Jordan reaffirmed the resolution of April 1948, which defined the entry of Arab armies into Palestine as a temporary measure, implying no suggestion of occupation or partition. The Jordan delegate reaffirmed that his Government's policy was to annex Arab Palestine subject to the approval of Parliament.

A message was received from Tel Aviv announcing the Israeli Government's refusal to negotiate with the Arabs on the basis of the U.N. partition plan of 1947.

ARGENTINA. 12 *Apr.*—*Trade Agreement*. A trade agreement with Australia, valid till the end of June 1951, was signed in Buenos Aires—the first between the two countries. It provided for an exchange of goods worth £500,000 each way—payments to be made in sterling.

13 Apr.—At the resumption of the discussions with Britain on the terms of the second year of the trade and payments agreement, a memorandum was presented in reply to the British Note (see p. 198) declaring that Argentina had fulfilled her obligations to excess but that Britain had not completed her buying programme as arranged.

AUSTRALIA. 12 Apr.—Trade agreement with Argentina (see Argentina).

17 Apr.—Mr Menzies, Prime Minister, told a press conference that the Government had a direct interest in Malaya and South-East Asia. Assistance to Malaya might take one of two forms, either economic or 'another form which depends on how the British Government finds itself in Malaya and whether it has any proposals to put to other British countries in relation to it'. Australia wanted to resist Communism and would give 'serious consideration to any kind of request made to us from appropriate quarters'. He thought there was little point in a Pacific Pact so long as unsettled internal conditions prevented some countries from joining it. One of the Government's first tasks therefore was to assist in establishing stable Governments in Indonesia, Malaya, and Burma.

18 Apr.—*Foreign Trade*. It was learned that the Minister of Trade had announced the relaxation of import licensing controls on a wide range of goods.

19 Apr.—Mr Harrison, Defence Minister, in a statement before leaving to take up his duties as resident Minister in London, said that all the resources of the Commonwealth must be marshalled in a ruthless campaign against Communism. He emphasized Australia's concern at the situation in Malaya and said that any request to Australia for assistance must come from Britain and would receive sympathetic consideration. He also stressed the need for a Pacific Pact which must be initiated by the Commonwealth countries and might then expect support from the U.S.A. He would remain in Britain for about a year and would actively retain his portfolio as Defence Minister.

*Strikes*. It was learned that the Government had revoked the anti-strike proclamation of 23 March.

AUSTRIA. 10 Apr.—*E.R.P.* It was learned that the E.C.A. authorities in Vienna had announced the release of a further 350 m. schillings for the investment programme, including building projects, the paper industry, coal mining, and the improvement of tourist amenities.

BELGIUM. 7 Apr.—M. van Zeeland announced that he could not obtain Liberal support in forming a Government. He therefore intended to form a mainly Christian Social Cabinet with the help of a few persons from the Left, mainly Liberals who were not committed to party discipline.

It was learned that M. van Zeeland had received a statement from Pregny in which King Leopold confirmed his views that Parliament should accept the responsibility of a decision on his return, and said

BELGIUM (*continued*)

that after being restored to his royal functions he might consider, with the help of a responsible government, what should be done in the interests of the country.

13 *Apr.*—M. van Zeeland went to Pregny, Switzerland, for discussions with King Leopold.

15 *Apr.*—King Leopold proposed, in a broadcast to the nation, that having resumed his constitutional functions on the basis of broad agreement between the political parties, he should delegate his powers temporarily to the Crown Prince. This delegation of his powers would end by agreement with the Government 'at the moment that I would judge it to conform to the interests of the people'.

BOLIVIA. 9 *Apr.*—The devaluation of the peso by 43 per cent was announced.

10 *Apr.*—*Communism.* The Government outlawed the Communist Party and accused Communists of conspiring to set up a South American Soviet Union. A Brazilian, Luis Carlos Prestes, was named as leader of the conspiracy.

BRAZIL. 13 *Apr.*—*Trade Agreement.* A trade agreement was concluded with Italy providing for an exchange of goods worth nearly \$100 m., and for economic collaboration between the two countries.

BRITISH WEST AFRICA. 13 *Apr.*—*Nigeria.* An Order in Council was published outlawing the Zikist movement which was charged with pursuing seditious aims by lawlessness and violence.

BULGARIA. 17 *Apr.*—*Yugoslavia.* It was learned that a Note had been sent to the Yugoslav Government accusing them of conspiring to overthrow the Bulgarian Government and assassinate its leaders.

BURMA. 10 *Apr.*—Government troops were reported to have captured the rebel strongholds of Magwe, in central Burma, and Tantabin, 150 miles to the south-east.

CANADA. 11 *Apr.*—*Defence.* Members of the Naval Board and chiefs of the naval, general, and air staffs held discussions with Admiral of the Fleet Lord Fraser, First Sea Lord, who had arrived in Ottawa from London.

CHILE. 12 *Apr.*—President Videla in Washington (*see United States*).

CHINA. 9 *Apr.*—The Nationalist news agency reported that a Communist invasion fleet of twenty ships had attempted a landing on Hainan Island and had been repulsed. Thirteen ships had been sunk.

10 *Apr.*—Nationalist protest against Soviet military aid to the Communists (*see U.N. Secretariat*).

11 *Apr.*—It was learned that in a recent speech at Hankow Gen. Lin

Piao, chairman of the Chungnan Military and Administrative Council, had described the difficulties confronting the new régime. In western Hunan, Kwangtung, and Kwangsi alone there were estimated to be about 150,000 armed bandits and special agents left behind by the Kuomintang 'engaging in continuous sabotage'. The vast majority of the population in the newly liberated areas had not yet been organized, the economy was still suffering from the effects of the war, 10 m. people were affected by the famine, financial administration was difficult, and there was a shortage of trained Communist political workers. The chief tasks for the year included clearing up remnants of the enemy and strengthening the national defence; productive reconstruction; land reform; improvement of the finances and the enforcement of austerity; the establishment of a system of people's representative meetings; cultural education; and the training of political workers. The chief military objective of the year was the capture of Hainan Island.

*Britain.* The military compound adjoining the British Embassy in Peking was requisitioned by the Peking Military Control Commission. A protest was lodged with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs by Mr Hutchison, the British Chargé d'Affaires.

15 *Apr.*—Gen. Chiang Kai-shek said in an interview that he believed 'the life or death of the United Nations' depended on the handling of the Nationalist case against Russia.

17 *Apr.*—A Communist invasion force gained a 'precarious foothold' on the north coast of Hainan Island after suffering heavy losses at sea, according to an official Nationalist dispatch.

It was learned that in a recent report to the Central People's Government Council, Chen Yun, the deputy Premier and chairman of the committee for financial and economic affairs, had claimed a marked improvement in the financial situation during the past four months, and that grain reserves were ample to overcome any spring food shortages in the deficient areas. Relief measures for the current year included the movement of grain from Manchuria, from Szechwan, and from the areas along the Chekiang, Kiangsi, and Canton-Hankow railways to the deficient areas.

Lintin Island, in the Pearl River estuary, was captured by the Communists.

18 *Apr.*—The Nationalists announced that the Communist forces had established two beachheads on Hainan Island and that severe fighting was going on.

**CZECHOSLOVAKIA.** 12 *Apr.*—*U.S.A.* The Government received a U.S. Note asking for an assurance, 'in accordance with established international procedure', that they had no objection to the employment by the U.S. Embassy of Czechoslovak citizens and that they would not discriminate against them because of such employment.

13 *Apr.*—*Espionage Trial.* Two translators formerly employed by the U.S. Information Service in Prague were found guilty of charges including espionage on behalf of the U.S.A. and of insulting an allied State—Russia—and were sentenced to long terms of imprisonment.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA (*continued*)

18 Apr.—*Church and State*. It was announced that the Government had closed most of the Catholic monasteries and had 'concentrated' the monks and nuns into a few religious houses to 'bring the orders back to their original Christian mission'. The order had been issued after proof had been obtained that many of the monasteries served as 'bases for espionage and disruptive activity'. Those which had been confiscated would be turned into social institutions and flats for workers.

*Espionage Trial*. Fifteen people, including two security police and one American citizen, were found guilty of espionage for the U.S.A. by a State court. Two were sentenced to death and the others to terms of imprisonment ranging from two years to life.

19 Apr.—*U.S.A.* The Foreign Ministry stated that a Note had been sent to the U.S. Embassy requesting the closing of the U.S. information offices and the withdrawal of the U.S. Press Attaché.

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION. 18 Apr.—The third plenary congress of the free Trade Unions of the participating countries opened in Rome with speeches by Dr Stikker, the president and political conciliator of the O.E.E.C., M. Marjolin, the secretary-general, Mr Katz, deputy to Mr Harriman, and others.

FRANCE. 6 Apr.—*Communism*. At the closing of the Communist Party Congress at Gennevilliers, M. Thorez was unanimously re-elected secretary-general of the Party. A resolution was passed calling on the party's militants to agitate for the prohibition of the atomic bomb and prevention of the landing, transport, and manufacture of war material in France.

10 Apr.—*Indo China*. In an interview with a press agency, M. Letourneau, Minister of France Overseas, said that Franco-U.S. conversations were taking place in Washington on the Indo Chinese problem. The solution was no longer a political one; that question had been settled with the transfer of power, and the new Governments had been given as much responsibility as possible. A withdrawal of French troops would not bring independence to the three States, but rather civil war and anarchy. France was anxious that these States should have their own armies, and conversations on the subject were proceeding in Saigon. But it was a difficult question, depending both on organization and equipment. The latter was one of the questions now being studied in Washington. The Government were also examining the question of economic aid to Indo China. He emphasized, however, that France did not intend her troops to be killed like mercenaries which are withdrawn once the danger has passed. She had the right to maintain her influence in the Far East, though she wanted nothing but to help the young States through the first difficult stages of their newly-won independence.

13 Apr.—*Atlantic Pact*. The first shipment of U.S. arms under the military aid agreement was unloaded without interference at Cherbourg. The operation was watched by three companies of special police.



14 Apr.—The National Committee of the C.G.T., the Communist-controlled Trade Union, ended a two-day session with a resolution deploring the ill-effects of the Marshall Plan and of the alleged preparations for war and claiming that success in obtaining satisfaction for wage demands was bound up with 'the fight for peace'.

16 Apr.—*Atlantic High Council*. M. Bidault, Prime Minister, speaking at Lyons, proposed the creation of an 'Atlantic High Council for Peace' to order and direct the defence and economics of the Atlantic community with the hope of adding a political branch in the near future. The new organization would be the logical extension and consolidation of the Brussels Treaty, the O.E.E.C., the Council of Europe, and the North Atlantic Treaty and would provide the framework into which they could all be integrated while retaining their own identity and aims. Peace depended on the co-existence or incompatibility of two worlds—the free world and the other—and war usually developed from a tragic misunderstanding over relative strengths. Such misunderstandings could only be avoided by showing a strongly organized and sufficiently extensive will for peace.

17 Apr.—*Labour Unrest*. One workman was killed and nine others and a number of policemen injured in a clash in Brest between the police and a crowd of over 3,000 demonstrators who were protesting, following a C.G.T. meeting, against the arrest the previous day of a Communist woman deputy and two trade union leaders charged with complicity in the kidnapping of a senior official of a local employers federation. Tear gas was used to disperse the crowd, and several arrests were made, including another Communist deputy.

18 Apr.—*Labour Unrest*. A general strike was held in Brest in response to a call from both Communist and non-Communist trade unions as a sign of mourning for the worker killed the previous day.

GERMANY. 11 Apr.—*Eastern Germany*. Herr Ulbricht, deputy Prime Minister, returned to Berlin from Russia where he had been staying since 24 February.

12 Apr.—Trade agreement between eastern Germany and the U.S.S.R. (see U.S.S.R.).

13 Apr.—*Western Germany*. The High Commission issued a regulation for establishing an allied board to supervise the expulsion of undesirable persons from the territory of the Federal Republic.

*Berlin*. Eight German policemen from the Russian Zone were arrested in the U.S. Sector of Berlin for illegally carrying firearms.

14 Apr.—*Western Germany*. The High Commission adopted the revised text of law No. 75 for the reorganization of the coal and iron and steel industries by a majority vote, Sir Brian Robertson (Britain) and Mr McCloy (U.S.A.) being in favour and M. François-Poncet (France) against. The French High Commissioner, who objected to the adoption of the preamble of the old law which contained the assurance that eventual ownership of the industries should be determined by a representative, freely-elected German Government, gave notice of appeal, in accordance with the constitution of the High Commission.

GERMANY (*continued*)

*Berlin.* Herr Honecker, leader of the Communist-controlled Free German Youth movement, referring in an article to the proposed Whitsun rally said there was no intention of forcing a way into the western Sectors. The aim of the march was to win over Berliners to the National Front. He claimed that membership of the movement in east Germany was 1,133,000.

15 *Apr.*—Representatives of the Governments of Württemberg-Baden, Baden, and Württemberg-Hohenzollern agreed at a meeting at Freudenstadt, Baden, that a referendum of the inhabitants be taken on the question of merging the three *Länder* into a single south-western State.

16 *Apr.*—*Berlin.* Dr Adenauer, the Chancellor of the west German Government, arrived in Berlin on a State visit.

*Eastern Germany.* Herr Pieck, President of the Republic, left Berlin for a holiday in the U.S.S.R.

17 *Apr.*—*Berlin.* Dr Adenauer, speaking at the headquarters of the *Magistrat*, emphasized that the fate of the Federal Republic was inextricably bound up with that of Berlin and eastern Germany. Later, accompanied by the Federal Ministers of Economics, Justice, and All-German Affairs, he had discussions with the municipal authorities of Berlin, followed by a meeting with the three western Commandants.

Gen. Bourne, the British Commandant, told a press conference that the Communists had a Soviet plan—Operation Berlin 1950—to take advantage of any temporary allied weakness and if possible drive the western Allies from the city. The British were taking precautions to deal with any disturbances during the May demonstrations. The Military Police were being brought up to full strength and a battalion of troops in western Germany would be held ready to fly to Berlin if necessary. He made it clear, however, that control of the demonstrations was in German hands and that the western Allies would only intervene if events got out of control. The western Sector police had been increased by 2,000 men and were being trained in the use of tear-gas. The deputy Commissioner of the British Metropolitan Police had arrived in Berlin at the request of the British High Commissioner to examine the police arrangements in the western Sectors.

*Dismantling.* Gen. Bishop, British Regional Commissioner of North Rhine-Westphalia, in a detailed statement to press correspondents about the dismantling of the Krupps war plant at Essen, said Allied plans had been continually modified for the benefit of the Germans. A number of the buildings originally scheduled for dismantling had been retained and the German economy had benefited from the sale for foreign currency of 140,000 tons of steel scrap. The work of demilitarization was now almost complete and it was inevitable that those employed on the job must be dismissed. German complaints on this score were utterly unjustified. The British authorities had encouraged the launching of a plan to install light industries on Krupps' sites, designed to give employment. He also announced the dismissal of Dr Hansen, who was appointed in March 1949 as general director of the Krupps



complex and who had lost the confidence of the British authorities.

Publication of British-Hungarian Notes on Germany (*see Great Britain*).

18 Apr.—Dr Adenauer, speaking in Berlin, said that the city was the outpost of democracy and that the Federal Republic would do everything possible to help it. He appealed to the western Powers to occupy themselves 'intensively' with the German question at the forthcoming conference in London and asked specifically for equal membership for Germany in the Council of Europe, a reduction of the economical controls exercised by the western Allies, and a revision before the autumn of the Occupation Statute. He also strongly criticized an article in the British-controlled newspaper *die Welt* which he interpreted as giving the allied view that before becoming a member of a European federation the Federal Government must give proof of 'having given up its inclination towards Soviet Russia'. When, at the end of his speech, he invited the audience to sing the third verse of *Deutschland über Alles* several Social Democrats walked out in protest.

*Western Germany.* It was learned that the High Commission had written to the Federal Government expressing provisional disapproval of the Civil Service law recently passed by Parliament.

19 Apr.—Dr Adenauer told a press conference in Berlin before returning to Bonn that he would take the opportunity of early discussions on the revision of the Occupation Statute; he hoped the Allies would observe the Atlantic Charter more closely in future. His Government would always maintain interest in the eastern Zone. The Germans did not want their country to become a battleground between the U.S.S.R. and the western Allies. They wanted peace, but not at Germany's expense. Referring to reports that former Nazis would be recruited into his Government's foreign service, he said they would not be given important Government posts but he thought the time had come to stop dividing the people into 'sinners and innocents'.

*Berlin.* The Democratic *bloc* in the Soviet Sector adopted a resolution stating that the necessary conditions for free elections in the whole of Berlin were: the introduction of 'genuine democratic reforms' throughout Germany, the withdrawal of occupation troops from Berlin, and the removal of the leading west Berlin politicians.

GREAT BRITAIN. 6 Apr.—*U.N. General Assembly.* A report on the proceedings of the fourth session of the General Assembly, published as a White Paper (Cmd. 7924) was presented to Parliament by Mr Bevin, Foreign Secretary. It included some introductory comments strongly criticizing the obstructive part played by the U.S.S.R.

*Malaya.* Mr Griffiths, Colonial Secretary, assured the House, in answer to a debate, of the Government's concern at the situation in Malaya. Bandit attacks which had been reduced to about twenty-three a week in December had now increased to about fifty or, at the peak, sixty each week. Since June 1948 1,138 bandits had been killed, 645 captured, and 359 had surrendered. The estimated number of bandits still operating was about 3,000. During the same period 323 police, 154

GREAT BRITAIN (*continued*)

members of the fighting services, and 803 civilians had been killed. The police force had now been built up from 9,500 to 70,000. For certain military equipment Malaya had priority, and military requirements were kept under continuous review. The overwhelming mass of opinion in Malaya was against martial law.

11 Apr.—Admiral Fraser in Ottawa (*see Canada*).

13 Apr.—Dr Malan on protectorates (*see South Africa*).

*Balance of Payments.* The Treasury published a White Paper (Cmd. 7928) giving detailed provisional figures of the U.K. balance of payments in 1949. Total imports for 1949 were £1,970 m. compared with £1,770 m. in 1948. Government overseas expenditure totalled £145 m. compared with £94 m. the previous year, and other payments totalled £2,500 m. against £2,223 m. in 1948. Receipts were £2,430 m., compared with £2,118 m. the previous year.

Discussions on Corfu Channel incident (*see Albania*).

14 Apr.—Dr Malan on anti-British grievances of white settlers in Africa (*see South Africa*).

17 Apr.—*Hungary.* The texts of two Hungarian Notes were published which criticized the 'reactionary and aggressive' policy of the German Federal Government and accused the British Government of having obstructed the return to Hungary of property removed by the Nazis. The British reply, the text of which was also published, rejected these accusations and said that the British Government could give no further consideration to the Hungarian claims until the Hungarian Government showed their willingness to honour obligations under the peace treaty and settle the debts incurred by their restitution mission.

A White Paper was published on National Income and Expenditure from 1946-9 (Cmd. 7933).

18 Apr.—*Budget.* Sir Stafford Cripps, Chancellor of the Exchequer, presenting the Budget to Parliament said that the first effects of devaluation appeared more favourable than originally anticipated. There had been a sharp increase in exports since September and it was anticipated that the external economic position would continue to improve and that in 1950 an overall deficit of £70 m. would be converted into an overall surplus of about £50 m. After reviewing the improvement in the sterling-dollar balance he stressed the importance of building up dollar reserves to meet the difficulties which were to be expected when Marshall aid ended. The O.E.E.C. had made remarkable progress in the past year and Britain was prepared to play her full part in the proposed European payments scheme, provided that the position of sterling was not jeopardized. Over the past two years the transferability of sterling had been gradually extended until to-day about half the world's international trade and commerce was carried by sterling. This achievement had been accomplished only at considerable cost to the nation. The greatest internal danger to Britain's external policies was still inflation. It was essential to avoid any inflationary tendencies which would prevent the import of raw materials on which depended the programme of increased production and full employment. During 1949 industrial

production had risen by  $6\frac{1}{2}$  per cent and total production by about 5 per cent. This, allowing for an increase in the numbers employed, suggested an increase of nearly 4 per cent in output per man-year compared with the forecast for a  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent increase. A  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent increase was expected in 1950. The overall Budget surplus in 1949 was £62 m. compared with an estimated surplus of £14 m. Total expenditure exceeded total estimates by £67 m. but this was more than offset by increases in revenue. Total revenue exceeded the estimates by £146 m. at £3,924 m.

For the coming year it was essential to continue to avoid the twin evils of inflation and deflation. Few changes were proposed. The housing programme would revert to that existing before the autumn economies and the building target for the following three years would be 200,000 houses a year. The lower rates of income tax would be reduced and the price of petrol increased. Total revenue in 1950-1 was estimated at £3,898 m. and total expenditure at £3,455 m. This would provide an over-the-line surplus of £443 m., on the alternative classification a surplus of £413 m., and overall a deficit of £7 m.

*Hungary.* The Government asked the Hungarian Government to recall one of their attachés in London and to discontinue the activities of the Hungarian Cultural Institute in London, in retaliation for similar action in Hungary in March.

*Malaya.* The Secretary of State for War told the House at question time that battle casualties suffered by troops serving in Malaya between 1 May 1948 and 28 February 1950 were 20 officers and 111 other ranks killed and 17 officers and 170 other ranks injured.

19 Apr.—*E.R.P.* The Economic Co-operation Administration mission announced that in the first two years of Marshall aid \$2,391,400,000 had been made available to Britain for essential purchases in dollar countries.

*Atomic Energy.* Mr Davies, Under-Secretary, Foreign Office, told the House at question time the Government were prepared to resume consultations in the U.N. Atomic Energy Commission as soon as the U.S.S.R. showed its readiness to attend.

*Middle East.* Mr Davies also told the House that since the lifting of the U.N. arms embargo in August 1949 limited quantities of British arms had been sold to Egypt, Persia, Turkey, Iraq, Jordan, and Saudi Arabia. No arms had been supplied to Israel because Britain had no treaty obligations towards that country and because according to available information Israel had sufficient war material for her internal security and self-defence.

*Strikes.* Nearly 2,000 dock workers came out on strike in the London docks in protest against the expulsion from the Transport and General Workers' Union of three dockers who had been charged with acting against union instructions in the strike the previous summer.

*GREECE.* 6 Apr.—Marshal Tito's statements (*see Yugoslavia*).

Two U.N. observers who went to attend a meeting between Greek and Bulgarian authorities near the Bulgarian border—a meeting at

GREECE (*continued*)

which the Bulgarians failed to arrive—were fired upon from Bulgarian territory.

14 Apr.—Mr Venizelos handed in the resignation of his Government. King Paul asked Gen Plastiras, joint leader with Mr Tsouderos of the centre group, E.P.E.K., to form a new one.

A law was passed giving Field-Marshal Papagos control over promotions and appointments in the three services, thus removing the armed services from political influence.

15 Apr.—*Government Changes*. The new Cabinet which was sworn in contained eight members of the Liberal Party, six of the E.P.E.K., and six Democratic Socialists. The Ministers included:— Gen. Plastiras, Prime Minister and, provisionally, Foreign Minister; Mr Papandreou, deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior; Mr Manouilides, National Defence.

17 Apr.—In the speech from the Throne at the opening of Parliament King Paul said that the new coalition would 'co-operate with the American Mission to implement a large-scale programme of economies, better administration, and a just redistribution of taxation.' He appealed for continuing efforts against the threat of militant Communism supported from abroad.

HUNGARY. 12 Apr.—*Volksdeutsche*. An official spokesman said that the decree of 1 April covering ownership of land by Germans applied only to Germans now in Hungary and not to those expelled at the end of the war.

13 Apr.—*Britain*. The Foreign Office was asked by the British Legation for information on the whereabouts of a British business man, Mr Lamerton, who had disappeared in Budapest on 11 April, the day before he was due to leave the country.

17 Apr.—Publication of exchange of Notes with Britain on Germany (*see Great Britain*).

18 Apr.—Request for recall of attaché in London and for closing of the Cultural Institute (*see Great Britain*).

INDIA. 7 Apr.—*Communal Unrest*. The working committee of the Congress Party meeting in Delhi passed a resolution attributing the original blame for the rioting to East Bengal but calling for an all-out effort to bring about a peaceful solution to the problem so as to avert catastrophe.

Three people were reported killed and seventeen injured in a bomb explosion in the jute mill area of Howrah.

8 Apr.—*Minorities Agreement*. At the conclusion of their conversations in Delhi, Pandit Nehru and Mr Liaquat Ali Khan signed an agreement providing for the protection of minorities throughout India and Pakistan on the basis of 'the complete equality of citizenship, irrespective of religion; a full sense of security in respect of life, culture, property, and personal honour; freedom of movement within each country; and freedom of occupation, speech, and worship, subject to

law and morality'. The minorities would owe their allegiance and loyalty to the State of which they were citizens and would look to the Government of their own State for the redress of their grievances. Specific conditions were laid down to safeguard the property of refugees from East Bengal, West Bengal, Assam, and Tripura State—the areas which had recently suffered from disturbances. To restore normal conditions and to prevent further disorders both Governments undertook to punish persons found guilty of criminal offences, setting up special courts wherever necessary, and imposing collective fines on localities where such offences had occurred. They also agreed to try to recover looted property, to assist in the return of abducted women to their families, and not to recognize forced religious conversions. Commissions of inquiry on either side, headed by High Court judges, would report on the recent disturbances and recommend measures to prevent their recurrence. Neither country would allow propaganda directed against the territorial integrity of the other, or inciting to war between them.

To help in restoring confidence one Minister from each central Government would be deputed to stay in the affected areas to help in the working of the agreement. There would also be included in the Ministries of East Bengal, West Bengal, and Assam a representative of the minority community (in Assam the minority community was already represented). Three minority commissions would be set up, one each for West Bengal, East Bengal, and Assam, headed in each case by a Minister of the provincial Government and one representative each of the majority and minority communities. There was also provision for referring any dispute that might arise at any level to the two Dominion Prime Ministers.

It was learned that the two Bengali Ministers in the Cabinet, Dr Mookerjee and Mr Neogy—Ministers of Industry and of Commerce respectively—had resigned.

10 *Apr.*—Pandit Nehru presented the minorities' agreement to Parliament, declaring that the two countries had stopped on the edge of a precipice and turned their backs to it.

13 *Apr.*—The Home Minister of Bombay State said he had evidence of plans to kill Pandit Nehru. Some of those believed to be responsible had been arrested.

17 *Apr.*—An official statement said that the Madras State police had shot dead sixty-seven Communists since the beginning of the year in about a dozen clashes.

19 *Apr.*—*Minorities.* Pandit Nehru told Parliament of the steps taken by India and Pakistan to carry out the agreement and said the communal atmosphere had greatly improved since it was signed. The number of Muslims leaving West Bengal each day had dropped to 1,200 from a peak figure of 10,000 and Hindus coming from East to West Bengal now totalled about 10,000 a day as against 20,000 during the peak period.

Dr Mookerjee giving the reasons for his resignation said he could not approve the Government's 'weak, halting, and inconsistent' attitude



INDIA (*continued*)

towards Pakistan and was reluctant to believe in Pakistan's sincerity owing to her past record.

INDO CHINA. 8 *Apr.*—Fifteen grenades were thrown in Saigon and seven Europeans killed.

9 *Apr.*—French military headquarters in Saigon reported that severe fighting had occurred on 4 and 6 April in the province of Soc Trang in Cochin China as a result of a new Viet Minh offensive. The French Air Force had raided rebel concentrations and inflicted heavy casualties.

It was also learned that rebels had raided the village of Banqua in the Haiphong area of Tongking. A recrudescence of terrorist activity was reported in the areas under French and Viet Nameese control, with the burning down of some villages and the kidnapping or assassination of pro-French inhabitants.

10 *Apr.*—Statement by M. Letourneau (*see France*).

12 *Apr.*—Recognition of Viet Nam, Cambodia, and Laos (*see Netherlands*).

14 *Apr.*—The French military authorities announced that 100 Viet Minh junks on a branch of the Mekong River, near Cantho in Cochin China, had been sunk by air attack. They also claimed to have crushed the attack in the Soc Trang area. Fighting continued in the Tra Vinh area, north of Saigon and along the road from Saigon to Loninh, also to the north.

18 *Apr.*—A twenty-four hour general strike called in the public services in Saigon as a protest against various decisions of the Bao Dai Government was obeyed by about half the city's workers.

19 *Apr.*—A French military spokesman announced that Viet Minh forces had launched a 'general offensive' against the road control towers in the Binhhoa region, twenty miles north-east of Saigon.

INDONESIA. 6 *Apr.*—The East Indonesian Government tendered its resignation but President Sukawati refused to accept it. Discussions began between representatives of the Central and East Indonesian Governments, and Col. Mokoginta, Commander of the Federal troops in East Indonesia, was released by Capt. Aziz for consultations.

7 *Apr.*—It was learned that Gen. Buurman van Vreeden, the Dutch Army Commander, had arrived in Macassar and issued an order of the day ordering members of the Netherlands-Indonesian Army who had joined the Aziz forces to return to barracks.

10 *Apr.*—A two-day conference of delegates from the East Indonesian Government, the Jogjakarta Republic, and the Federal Government ended in Jokarta after discussions on the Macassar revolt. A joint statement was issued declaring that the Republic had no intention of incorporating any territory into its jurisdiction but that the people's desire for any change in the political structure would be decisive. In view of the recent difficulties the three delegations had agreed that the question of the State of East Indonesia should be settled on the basis of 'the firmest possible unity of the Indonesian nation'.



Dr Hatta, the Federal Prime Minister, appealed to the people of East Indonesia in a broadcast not to join the rebels, declaring that the revolt was endangering the unity of the nation.

A clash between Dutch and Indonesian troops at Bandoeng was reported, in which one Dutch and one Indonesian soldier were killed.

11 *Apr.*—The Federal Defence Minister, the Sultan of Jogjakarta, said in a broadcast that Capt. Aziz had freed the Federal troops he had imprisoned and had agreed to come to Jakarta to report.

13 *Apr.*—Following the repeated refusal of Capt. Aziz to come to Jakarta, President Soekarno broadcast an order to his troops to 'settle the Macassar affair'.

14 *Apr.*—Capt. Aziz arrived in Jakarta to report to the Government. He was immediately arrested.

16 *Apr.*—It was learned that the Government had suspended Col. Mokoginta from his command in East Indonesia.

19 *Apr.*—The rebel forces in Macassar surrendered unconditionally shortly after the landing of about 2,000 Federal troops. The Worang battalion, whose imminent arrival had set off the revolt, also landed on the island.

It was announced that Sultan Hamid II, the Minister without Portfolio who had been arrested on 5 April, had confessed to ordering 'Turk' Westerling to launch an attack during a Cabinet meeting on 24 January and to shoot three members of the Government and arrest the others. A new Government was then to be set up with Hamid himself as Defence Minister.

IRAQ. 10 *Apr.*—Ali Khalid, former chief of police, was sentenced to life imprisonment by the High Court on a charge of trying to overthrow the Government by force.

ITALY. 8 *Apr.*—It was learned that Signor Saragat, the Social Democrat leader, had reaffirmed in an article that his party intended to remain in the Government coalition.

Signor de Gasperi, Prime Minister, appealed for national solidarity in a broadcast and defended the North Atlantic Treaty as an instrument for the defence of peace.

*Trieste.* Count Sforza, Foreign Minister, speaking in Milan, appealed for direct negotiations with Yugoslavia over Trieste. The three-Power declaration of 1948 should form the substantial basis for discussion but it should not be considered an iron law and certain minor adjustments would be possible, though he made it clear that Italy abandoned none of her claims to the Free Territory based on ethnic grounds. Direct agreement on Trieste would leave the door open for a wider settlement between the two countries. All free minds in Italy admired the pride with which Marshal Tito had stood for the independence of his country. If the Yugoslav Government were long-sighted they would see that in the case of a renewal of 'expansionism' their interests coincided with those of Italy.

9 *Apr.*—*Borba* comment on Count Sforza's speech (*see Yugoslavia*).

ITALY (*continued*)

10 *Apr.*—Soviet Note on reparations (*see* *U.S.S.R.*).

11 *Apr.*—*Atlantic Pact*. The first shipment of U.S. arms under the military aid scheme arrived at Naples and was unloaded without interruption in spite of Communist threats. An eight-hour general strike called by the local Communists was a comparative failure.

*Communism*. The Communist Party executive began a three-day meeting in Rome.

12 *Apr.*—*U.S.S.R.* A communiqué issued by the Government in reply to the Soviet Note said that Italian valuation of its assets in the Balkans exceeded \$100 m. thus wiping out the obligation to pay reparations from current production. The statement accused the U.S.S.R. of trying to 'pulverize' the valuation of Italian property in the Balkans.

13 *Apr.*—Trade agreement with Brazil (*see* *Brazil*).

16 *Apr.*—*Trieste*. It was learned that Count Sforza had received the British, French, and U.S. Ambassadors separately for discussions on Trieste.

JAPAN. 7 *Apr.*—Mr Yoshida told the Upper House in answer to a question that the Government had received no overture from the U.S.A. for the establishment of bases in Japan but that should the request be made Japan was in no position to refuse. The Government could not have any say in what the occupation authorities might do.

14 *Apr.*—Dr Jessup on the need for a peace treaty (*see* *United States*).

17 *Apr.*—Mr Doidge on peace treaty (*see* *New Zealand*).

JORDAN, KINGDOM OF. 9 *Apr.*—King Abdullah received the president and principal secretary of the U.N. Palestine Conciliation Commission, who arrived in Amman from Jerusalem.

10 *Apr.*—The Prime Minister and Foreign Minister received the delegates of the U.N. Conciliation Commission, who later left for Damascus.

11 *Apr.*—*Elections*. A general election was held.

13 *Apr.*—*Government Changes*. A royal decree was issued approving the new Cabinet which included the following Ministers:— Prime Minister, Said Pasha el Mufti; Interior, Falah Pasha el Madadha; Defence, Fawzi Pasha el Mulki; Exterior, Mohammed Pasha Shureiki.

KOREA. 7 *Apr.*—President Rhee of South Korea told Parliament he had received a letter from Mr Hoffman, the E.C.A. administrator, threatening to reduce Marshall aid unless a Bill was passed providing for a balanced Budget and other steps taken to check inflation.

12 *Apr.*—The U.N. Commission was informed that 600 Communist guerrillas had broken through the mountains on the border between North and South Korea.

MALAYA. 6 *Apr.*—Nine hundred Gurkha troops arrived in Singapore from Hong Kong.

Bandits attacked the night mail train from Singapore, killing one passenger and wounding three.

Two special policemen were killed in an ambush in the Kedah area.

8 Apr.—The night mail from Singapore was derailed by an explosion a few miles south of Paloh, in Johore.

A detachment of fighter bombers arrived in Singapore from the Middle East.

9 Apr.—Seven bandits were killed and five captured by a patrol of Gurkhas in the Jelebu area of Negri Sembilan.

10 Apr.—A European was killed and a Chinese injured by a hand-grenade thrown into a hotel in Ipoh.

A gang of bandits attacked a military camp in the Mentakab area of Pahang but were beaten off.

The night mail train from Singapore was held up while security forces patrolling the line fought with a bandit gang near Sedenak, in Johore.

11 Apr.—One British officer and two soldiers were seriously wounded in an engagement in the Bentong area of Pahang.

12 Apr.—A report on the squatter problem issued by the Government said that the early resettlement of about 300,000 Chinese squatters was necessary to break up terrorist activity. There was evidence that the terrorists regarded the resettlement schemes as a major threat to their survival. So far the Government had spent \$1,809,030 (Malayan) on squatter schemes, and up to 10 March this year 11,683 had been settled, 4,465 resettled, and 2,396 regrouped.

15 Apr.—A passenger train was derailed by bandits near Mentakab, in Pahang. An estate in Perak was attacked by bandits who killed a labourer and set fire to the buildings.

17 Apr.—Gen. Briggs, Director of Operations, announced to a press conference the formation of a 'War Cabinet', with himself as chairman. Other members were the Federal Chief Secretary, the Federal Secretary for Defence, the Commissioner of Police, and the Army and Air Force Commanders. A policy of fighting Communism had been agreed upon but immediate results should not be expected. The question of information and intelligence was also being reviewed. The utmost thought was being given to the question of reinforcement, and the Chief of the Imperial General Staff and Secretaries of State for War and the Colonies had promised all assistance.

Mr Menzies on Australia's interest in Malaya (*see Australia*).

A Chinese woman was murdered by bandits in the Kampar area of Perak.

18 Apr.—The Communities Liaison Committee issued recommendations for a new form of Federal citizenship.

British Army casualties (*see Great Britain*).

19 Apr.—After a debate in the Federal Legislative Council in which concern was expressed at the slow rate of progress against the bandits a motion was unanimously passed by the unofficial members calling for the mobilization, training, and equipment of all available manpower to help in restoring peace. Sir Henry Gurney, the High Commissioner,

MALAYA (*continued*)

told the Council that although he did not minimize the seriousness of the situation it was very misleading to judge it from the number of bandit incidents. The recent recrudescence of bandit activity was largely a counter to the anti-bandit month volunteers whose overwhelming response had revealed the hollowness of the Communist claims.

Two grenades were thrown in the streets of Mantin, in Negri Sembilan, causing two casualties.

Mr Harrison on Malaya (*see Australia*).

NETHERLANDS. 12 *Apr.*—*Indo China*. The Government recognized Viet Nam, Laos, and Cambodia as associate members within the French Union.

NEW ZEALAND. 7 *Apr.*—*U.S.S.R.* Mr Doidge, Minister for External Affairs, announced that New Zealand was withdrawing her diplomatic representation from Moscow and closing the Legation there soon. The raising of the rouble exchange rate had increased the difficulties confronting small nations in maintaining representation in the U.S.S.R.

14 *Apr.*—Mr Doidge, speaking at Tauranga, emphasized the necessity for a Pacific Pact.

17 *Apr.*—*Japan*. Mr Doidge said that the Government were anxious for a peace settlement with Japan but were strongly opposed to one that would lead to a resurgence of Japanese military strength. He felt strongly that all the nations which had taken part in the war against Japan should have a voice in the peace settlement.

NORTHERN IRELAND. 6 *Apr.*—Sir Basil Brooke in the U.S.A. (*see United States*).

PAKISTAN. 8 *Apr.*—Minorities' agreement with India (*see India*). Mr Liaquat Ali Khan returned to Karachi from Delhi.

10 *Apr.*—Mr Ali Khan presenting the minorities' agreement to Parliament said it was the precursor of a new understanding between India and Pakistan. He and the Indian Prime Minister would be meeting from time to time to review the fulfilment of the agreement as well as to consider other problems of common concern. It was essential that all outstanding matters should be settled by peaceful means.

16 *Apr.*—*Minorities*. It was learned that the Prime Minister of East Bengal was visiting Karachi with the Chief Secretary and the Financial Secretary of his Government for discussions on the working of the Delhi agreement.

19 *Apr.*—Pandit Nehru on improved Communal situation (*see India*).

PALESTINE. 6 *Apr.*—Mr Sharet, the Israeli Foreign Minister, received M. de Boisanger, chairman of the Palestine Conciliation Commission, who had arrived in Jerusalem from Geneva.

8 Apr.—Tightening of Arab blockade (*see Arab League*).

12 Apr.—Mr Sharet again received M. Boisanger, chairman of the Conciliation Commission.

13 Apr.—Government's refusal to negotiate with the Arabs (*see Arab League*).

It was learned that the Government had published the text of a memo sent to the Conciliation Commission on 23 March asking the Commission to declare the Arab States responsible for the failure of its work.

16 Apr.—An Israeli Foreign Office spokesman rejected the demand of the Arab League for the return of Arab refugees as a condition for peace negotiations.

17 Apr.—An Arab village near the demarcation line in the Hebron district was shelled by Jews and three Arab refugees were severely wounded according to an announcement in Amman.

18 Apr.—It was learned that in a memo to the Conciliation Commission on 31 March the Israeli Government had said they were ready to start negotiations at once with the Arab States 'by any effective procedure that may be devised' to settle all outstanding questions.

19 Apr.—Statement on British supplies of arms to the Middle East (*see Great Britain*).

PAN-AMERICA. 8 Apr.—The Council of the Organization of American States unanimously agreed to order Cuba, Guatemala, and the Dominican Republic to take active steps to prevent further unrest in the Caribbean area. Failure to obey would involve the application of sanctions under the terms of the Rio Treaty. It was also decided to set up a five-Power committee to see that the orders were carried out.

POLAND. 6 Apr.—The Government ordered the expulsion of the sole remaining British correspondent in Warsaw because of 'un-objective reporting'.

10 Apr.—Report of religious persecution (*see Vatican*).

13 Apr.—Archbishop of Cracow in Rome (*see Vatican*).

14 Apr.—*Church and State*. An agreement was signed between the Government and the 'Council of Bishops' covering the entire field of Church and State relations, according to Warsaw radio. It provided for the acceptance by the Catholic Church of the laws already promulgated by the Government. While the Pope was recognized as the highest Church authority in all matters of faith, morality, and Church jurisdiction, the Bishops agreed to be guided in all other questions by the interests of the State. Other concessions by the Bishops included undertakings to punish any priests taking part in anti-State activity, to accept the Oder-Neisse line as the final frontier with Germany, and to support the Government's reconstruction programmes. The State also promised not to restrict further the provision for religious instruction in schools and to allow the Catholic press and publishing houses to carry on.

17 Apr.—Vatican denial of agreement (*see Vatican*).

SOUTH AFRICA. 7 *Apr.*—*Native policy.* The Congress of the Federated Dutch Churches of Southern Africa meeting at Bloemfontein adopted a resolution supporting a policy of complete racial and territorial segregation.

12 *Apr.*—Dr Malan, Prime Minister, replying to two specific questions on the Government's policy by Gen. Smuts said, first, that the Nationalist Party did not consider the total segregation of natives and Europeans was practical policy. It was an ideal that could not be achieved owing to the fact that the country's economic structure was based on native labour. The Government aimed at canalizing the flow of native labour and returning as many natives as possible to their tribal home. It was also necessary to educate the natives to make the best use of their land. On the second point—Republicanism—he said that this had always been the policy of the Nationalist Party. It was now possible to have a Republic within the Commonwealth but the Government would not try to introduce a Republic without consulting the people.

13 *Apr.*—*Protectorates.* In a statement to the House of Assembly Dr Malan spoke of the Government's impatience to reach a settlement over the three protectorates. Between 1937 and 1939 exchanges had been held between the Government and other Governments in South Africa resulting in 1938 in the publication of a joint statement announcing the establishment of a standing joint advisory committee to study openings for co-operation between South Africa and the territories. In August 1939 Gen. Hertzog who was then Prime Minister, had sent a draft memo to the British Government incorporating suggestions made by both Governments about the future status of the protectorates. But with the advent of war the matter had been dropped. He, Dr Malan, was now prepared, with the consent of the Cabinet, to take up the negotiations with Britain where they had been suspended in 1939. Gen. Smuts, leader of the Opposition, expressed the view that an amicable settlement was possible, and that it was the two world wars that had delayed the transfer of the protectorates to South Africa.

14 *Apr.*—Dr Malan, addressing the Assembly on policy towards neighbouring territories, referred to the 'clash of interests' between white settlers and the policy pursued by the Governments in those areas, particularly those under the control of Britain and France. White settlers with 'grievances' against Britain had asked the Union Government to receive a delegation to discuss questions of policy. He had replied that South Africa could not interfere with the affairs of Britain but that he was prepared to receive a deputation to discuss the matter if Britain acquiesced.

17 *Apr.*—Mr Havenga, Finance Minister, told the Assembly that the financial year would end with a surplus estimated at £1,500,000 instead of the deficit of £750,000 expected earlier. The inflow of capital from the U.S.A. and Switzerland had increased and the dollar position was improving. The foreign exchange position was now so strong that the Government expected to meet their requirements for the rest of the year as far as import permits were concerned. If this improvement



continued it would be possible to meet all legitimate demands of commerce and industry. As a result of premium sales the gold mining industry had made a profit of £1,700,000. Officials of the International Monetary Fund had for a long time been investigating the possibility of the Union selling 50 per cent of its gold at premium prices. But before presenting their report to the governors it was desired that the interested Powers should consult together to find a way out of the difficulty.

SPAIN. 14 Apr.—Twelve men who had been arrested in February 1948 were found guilty by a military court at Ocana of having formed a clandestine organization for supplying information to the Basque National Government in exile. They were sentenced to prison terms ranging from six months to twelve years.

SWEDEN. 12 Apr.—The Foreign Ministry pointed out to the U.S. Ambassador that U.S. aircraft searching the Baltic for a missing naval plane had several times passed over Swedish territory and in some cases over the prohibited area round Karlskrona (the naval port). It emphasized that permits were necessary and that certain restrictions were in force in military areas. The U.S. Embassy thanked the Swedish authorities for their help in the search and said the instructions would be forwarded immediately to the leaders of the rescue operation.

SWITZERLAND. 11 Apr.—Trade agreement with Yugoslavia (*see Yugoslavia*).

THAILAND. 11 Apr.—Pibul Songgram, Prime Minister, said that the U.S.A. had authorized a grant of \$10 m. worth of arms and other military aid to Thailand.

TRIESTE. 6 Apr.—Marshal Tito's statement (*see Yugoslavia*).

8 Apr.—Count Sforza's speech (*see Italy*).

9 Apr.—Borba comment on Count Sforza's speech (*see Yugoslavia*).

14 Apr.—Diplomatic *démarche* in Belgrade (*see Yugoslavia*).

16 Apr.—Elections were held in the Yugoslav Zone. 86.77 per cent of the electorate went to the polls and of these 88.36 per cent voted for the People's Front, 1.7 per cent for the Socialists and 1.14 per cent for the Christian Socialists. Of the votes 8 per cent were invalid.

Diplomatic *démarche* in Rome (*see Italy*).

TURKEY. 10 Apr.—Marshal Chakmak, one of Kemal Atatürk's closest collaborators in founding the Republic, died aged seventy-four.

## UNITED NATIONS

### BALKANS COMMISSION

9 Apr.—It was learned that the Commission, reporting after a 600-mile tour of the northern frontiers of Greece, had said that though physical conditions were greatly improved normal conditions could not be restored until the guerrilla troops who had taken refuge the previous

U.N. BALKANS COMMISSION (*continued*)

autumn in the Cominform countries had been disarmed. Guerrilla incidents were still occurring on the Bulgarian frontier and while these were on a reduced scale the fear of further incursions caused the Greek army to maintain large bodies of troops near the frontier. None of the northern neighbours of Greece had ever permitted U.N. inspection on its side of the frontier.

## ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

18 *Apr.*—Mr Myrdal, the executive secretary, left Geneva for a tour of the principal European capitals.

19 *Apr.*—A report by the executive secretary published in Geneva gave a survey of the Commission's activities during the past three years and showed the attempts made to break the deadlock in East-West trade. It said that a memo had been sent to member Governments the previous November suggesting a multilateral trade agreement as a framework for effective bilateral negotiations. Interested Governments would indicate the lists and perhaps the quantities of goods they would be willing to take as importers or supply as exporters.

## INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

11 *Apr.*—Delegates from twenty-seven member States attended the opening of a meeting at Havana for discussions on air communications in the Caribbean.

## SECRETARIAT

10 *Apr.*—*China.* The Chinese Nationalist Government lodged a protest with the Secretary-General against the alleged use of Soviet aircraft and men in recent operations in China.

19 *Apr.*—*Jerusalem.* The Soviet delegation informed the Secretary General of their Government's intention to withdraw support from the creation of an international régime in Jerusalem, since it had become clear that the plan did not satisfy the local Arab and Jewish population.

## SECURITY COUNCIL

12 *Apr.*—*Kashmir.* Sir Owen Dixon, member of the Australian High Court of Justice, was appointed mediator in the execution of a five-month demilitarization programme in Kashmir which was to precede the plebiscite. Both the Indian and Pakistani delegates promised the mediator the full support of their Governments.

## TRUSTESHIP COUNCIL

13 *Apr.*—*Jerusalem.* It was learned that M. Garreau, chairman of the Council, had invited the Governments of Israel and Jordan to send delegations to Athens to confer with him on the fulfilment of the terms of the Jerusalem Statute. The Israeli Government in their reply had expressed doubts about the usefulness of such a meeting and had declared that in any case they could not take part in discussions on this subject.

UNITED STATES. 6 *Apr.*—President Truman announced the appointment of Mr Foster Dulles as consultant to the Secretary of State.

Sir Basil Brooke, Prime Minister of Northern Ireland, arrived in New York.

7 *Apr.*—Mr Acheson, Secretary of State, received Sir Basil Brooke.

8 *Apr.*—*E.R.P.* The E.C.A. announced that a new division was to be established whose chief concern would be to promote international trade and help the E.R.P. countries increase their dollar earnings by raising the volume of their export trade to the U.S.A. Experts would be sent to western Europe for this purpose.

The E.C.A. published a letter from Mr Hoffman to Senator Alexander Smith in which he said that if the dollar gap were to be closed without disastrous results Europe must, before 1953, make further dollar savings of about \$1,000 m. and at the same time increase her earnings by a little less than \$1,000 m. This would mean bringing trade between the U.S.A. and western Europe into balance at a figure between \$3,000 m. and \$3,500 m. Of the \$1,000 m. of increased earnings needed by Europe, about \$400 m. would be in competitive goods, thus raising the total of competitive goods from Europe to a figure less than \$1,250 m. or one-third of 1 per cent of the total U.S. output. This could have no appreciable effect on the U.S. economy.

10 *Apr.*—*E.R.P.* A report issued by the E.C.A. said that Europe's food output after 1952 would be still far beneath requirements and that food imports above the pre-war average would be necessary to permit food consumption at the 1939 level. The ability to achieve this level would depend on the countries' ability to earn the foreign exchange with which to pay for food abroad. European production was now much higher than before the war, but to keep up with the growth of population, output had to go up to 115 per cent of pre-war to maintain standards of production.

*Middle East.* Gen. Collins, Army Chief of Staff, who had returned to Washington after a tour of the countries of the eastern Mediterranean and Near East, told a press conference that he was impressed by the progress made in such countries as Greece, Turkey, and Persia and that this area was in a better condition to defend itself against aggression than when President Truman had first acted to provide arms to Greece and Turkey in 1947. Aid to Persia should be continued, if not increased. He also said it would be a mistake to withdraw the U.S. military missions from Middle East countries.

11 *Apr.*—*U.S.S.R.* Soviet protest against alleged violation of Soviet territory by an American bomber (*see U.S.S.R.*). Gen. Vandenberg, Air Force Chief of Staff, said in a formal statement that the Air Force had no four-engined bombers in the Baltic area on 8 April, nor was any such aircraft missing. Admiral Sherman, Chief of Naval Operations, said that standing orders required naval patrol aircraft in the Baltic to stay well clear of the territory and territorial waters of Russia and the Russian satellites. He added, however, that a naval patrol aircraft, with a crew of ten, which had left Wiesbaden on 8 April on a routine training flight to Copenhagen was missing. This machine was unarmed.

UNITED STATES (*continued*)

Military aid to Thailand (*see Thailand*).

*Under-developed Areas.* Mr McGhee, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern, South Asian and African Affairs, addressed the Foreign Policy Association in New York on the importance of implementing the Point Four programme.

*Northern Ireland.* Sir Basil Brooke, addressing the National Press Club in Washington, defended the position of Northern Ireland as part of the U.K. and said it was making an important strategic contribution to the Atlantic Pact. He also spoke of the part being played by Northern Ireland in the economic recovery of Britain and the efforts to narrow the dollar gap.

12 Apr.—Swedish representations *re* U.S. aircraft passing over Swedish territory (*see Sweden*).

*Chile.* The President of Chile, Señor Videla, accompanied by his wife and Señor Walker, the Foreign Minister, arrived in Washington on a State visit.

Note to Czechoslovakia on employment of Czech citizens by the Prague Embassy (*see Czechoslovakia*).

14 Apr.—*Far East.* Dr Jessup, the Ambassador-at-large, in a broadcast on his recent tour of Asia said that the three main problems in that area were internal disorder, the inexperience of Governments, and poverty. The U.S.A. could best help these countries to restore peaceful conditions and raise the standard of living by sending them key equipment to improve their communications etc., and by implementing the Point Four programme of technical co-operation. U.S. policy towards Asia was a developing not a static one and it needed the whole-hearted support of the U.S. people. Its main features were: (1) a belief in the right to independence of every country. This had been demonstrated in relations with the Philippines, South Korea, and Indonesia; (2) a belief in the institution of democratic government. The U.S.A. believed that the Japanese people had progressed to a point when they deserved a peace treaty which would give them responsibility for managing their own affairs, with certain necessary safeguards; (3) a belief that free people who were determined to maintain their independence were entitled to military aid which would help them to remain free; (4) the granting of economic aid where necessary; (5) maintenance of a vigorous information programme to make clear U.S. policy and counter the Communist campaign of misinformation; (6) continued efforts through the United Nations and also through direct diplomatic channels to encourage the settlement of international disputes.

It was learned that the State Department had set up a new strategy committee, with Dr Jessup as chairman. Other members would be Mr Paul Nitze, head of the policy planning staff, Mr Barrett, Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs, and Mr Thorp, Assistant Secretary of State for Economic Affairs.

*Atlantic Pact.* Gen. Bradley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, speaking in Chicago, said that the defence plan adopted at The Hague

was subject to constant revision, though the basic feature was the necessity of holding the frontiers of western Europe. As the plans developed national traditions would have to give way to reality; for there must be national specialization if each country were to fit into an overall balance for collective defence. This would involve a certain sacrifice of sovereignty but such an alternative, though hard, was preferable to war.

18 Apr.—Reply to Soviet Note of 11 April (*see U.S.S.R.*).

*Foreign Policy.* President Truman stressed in a statement the importance of maintaining a truly bipartisan foreign policy, and said that both he and Mr Acheson intended to keep members of the minority currently informed and to solicit their views.

*E.R.P.* Mr Hoffman, speaking in Chicago, said that Russia was carrying on a battle for world conquest which she hoped to win on the economic and information fronts without resort to shooting. Her objective was to stop production, and create misery, unemployment, inflation, and distrust of Government—conditions on which Communism thrived the best. The U.S. reply was to provide economic assistance and to spread the truth that recovery and freedom were inseparable.

19 Apr.—Mr Harriman, the representative in Europe of the E.C.A., speaking in New York said that Russia aimed to dominate the world by fear and gave his opinion that war could be averted by a U.S. policy of economic progress at home and of assistance and leadership, as equal partners, to the free nations abroad. If the U.S.A. carried out a vigorous and consistent foreign policy in full co-operation with the other members of the Atlantic Pact, an impregnable position of strength would develop in western Europe and other parts of the free world leading eventually to a crumbling of the Kremlin's control. There was no doubt that Tito's disaffection had resulted from the success of the Marshall Plan.

Request for closing of information offices in Prague and withdrawal of Press Attaché (*see Czechoslovakia*).

*Atlantic Pact.* It was announced that Mr Bruce had resigned his post as director of the Mutual Defence Assistance programme with effect from 1 May.

U.S.S.R. 7 Apr.—Withdrawal of New Zealand's diplomatic representation announced (*see New Zealand*).

10 Apr.—*Italy.* A Note was handed to the Italian Ambassador complaining of Italy's delay in starting to pay her \$100 m. reparations debt, delivery of which was due to begin on 15 September 1949. It recalled that in a Note on 22 September 1949 the Soviet Government had reminded the Italian Government of the necessity of fulfilling these obligations, and rejected the Italian Government's memo of 14 January 1950 which explained their failure to start deliveries by the fact that the negotiations for determining the value of the Italian assets in Bulgaria, Hungary, and Rumania had not yet been completed. This, the Note said, did not justify Italy's non-fulfilment of obligations concerning reparations from current production. The Note also condemned the

U.S.S.R. (*continued*)

Italian Government's methods of evaluating the assets in the Balkans.

11 *Apr.*—*U.S.A.* A Note was handed to the U.S. Ambassador stating that on 8 April a four-engined military plane of the B-29 type (a Flying Fortress) bearing U.S. identification marks was sighted south of Libau (Latvia) and had penetrated 21 km. into Soviet territory. 'Because of the fact that the American plane continued to penetrate into Soviet territory, a flight of Soviet fighters took off from a nearby aerodrome and demanded that the American plane follow it and land at the aerodrome. The American plane not only failed to comply with this demand but opened fire on the Soviet planes. Owing to this, an advanced Soviet fighter was forced to open fire in reply, after which the American plane turned towards the sea and disappeared. The Soviet Government declares its resolute protest to the U.S. Government against this gross violation of the Soviet frontier by an American military plane, which at the same time constitutes an unheard of violation of the elementary rules of international law.'

U.S. official comment (*see United States*).

12 *Apr.*—It was learned that a trade and payments agreement with eastern Germany had been signed in Moscow providing for a turnover 35 per cent higher than in 1949.

Italian statement on reparations (*see Italy*).

18 *Apr.*—*U.S.A.* The Government received a U.S. Note in reply to their Note of 11 April stating that the only U.S. military aircraft flying in the Baltic area on 8 April was an unarmed Navy Privateer plane which had disappeared on that date. The U.S. Government were convinced from their investigations that this aircraft had strictly complied with instructions and had not flown over Soviet or Soviet-occupied territory or territorial waters. In view of these facts and of the statements contained in the Soviet Note it must be concluded that Soviet military aircraft had fired on an unarmed U.S. aircraft over the open sea, following which the U.S. aircraft was lost. The U.S. Government protested solemnly against this violation of international law and demanded that the Soviet Government institute a thorough investigation of the matter and also give instructions to the Soviet Air Force to avoid any repetition of incidents of this kind. On completion of the investigation the U.S. Government expected that the Soviet Government would apologize for the incident, punish those responsible, and pay an appropriate indemnity.

19 *Apr.*—*Black Sea.* An article in *Red Fleet* said that the 1936 Montreux Convention governing navigation in the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus had 'ceased to correspond with the interests of Black Sea Powers.'

VATICAN. 10 *Apr.*—*Poland.* The Vatican newspaper, *L'Osservatore Romano*, published a documented report of the persecution of the Catholic Church in Poland.

13 *Apr.*—*Poland.* Cardinal Prince Adam Sapieha, Archbishop of Cracow, arrived in Rome.



14 Apr.—Church agreement in Poland (*see Poland*).

17 Apr.—*Poland*. The official news service said that the contents and circumstances of the reported agreement 'indicate that the news is without foundation'.

WESTERN UNION. 14 Apr.—*Defence*. It was announced in London that in order to ensure uniform standards of efficiency and a common technique throughout the air forces of the Brussels Treaty Powers a combined examining squadron had been formed.

16 Apr.—The eighth meeting of the Consultative Council of the Brussels Treaty Powers opened in Brussels, attended by the Foreign, Finance, and Defence Ministers or their deputies from the five member States.

17 Apr.—The meeting ended after agreement had been reached on 'the need to put immediately into effect certain of the projects required by the defence plans already approved'. It was also agreed that projects of common interest should be paid for in common. The procedure for financing such projects would be the subject of concrete proposals to be submitted to the Governments, 'bearing in mind that economic progress and stability constitute a fundamental element in the security of western Europe'. The Consultative Council also signed three multi-lateral conventions governing frontier workers, the exchange of student employees, and a supplementary convention regarding mutual medical assistance. It was announced that an informal meeting had been held between the members of the Council and Mr Douglas, the U.S. Ambassador in London, who was also head of the U.S. mission for the co-ordination of military aid in Europe.

YUGOSLAVIA. 6 Apr.—Marshal Tito in an interview with a British correspondent said he did not believe that war was inevitable between East and West. Comparing the Yugoslav and Soviet systems he said that while the economic goal was similar the Yugoslav approach was more elastic, according to conditions. In foreign relations Yugoslavia considered co-operation was necessary and did not think it right to interfere in the affairs of others. Asked whether the Yugoslav system could not be humanized in order to obtain further co-operation with the West he said this did not depend only on Yugoslavia but also 'on other countries and on internal elements which are making difficulties'. The five-year plan was progressing well but was behind schedule in certain branches because of damage done by the Cominform blockade. Credits from the West had eased the situation but they were far from sufficient. It was necessary to continue to produce arms at home rather than buying them abroad because it was cheaper and also because the international situation did not allow them to make agreements for armaments. The latter reason would not of course be valid in case of war. The possibility of co-operation with Greece depended on developments in that country. At the moment they were not propitious for an understanding. In answer to a specific question he said that Yugoslavia could co-operate with a Government under Gen. Plastiras supported by

YUGOSLAVIA (*continued*)

the left-centre and left-wing parties but that this remark was not intended as interference in the internal affairs of Greece. There were good prospects of closer relations with Italy for the benefit of both countries. 'The question of Trieste must and would be solved, and in such a way as to make the co-operation of both sides possible, but this was not a question of great current importance.'

8 Apr.—Count Sforza on Trieste (*see Italy*).

9 Apr.—*Trieste*. An editorial in the Communist organ *Borba* described Count Sforza's speech as 'provocative' and said that Yugoslavia would not 'buy anybody's friendship at the price of trading away its legitimate interests, and least of all by concessions which would mean renouncing its territories and nationals.'

11 Apr.—*Trieste*. In a further editorial on *Trieste Borba* declared that Yugoslavia would never agree to 'handing over new territories which are inhabited by our nationals to foreign rule'. They were ready to solve all disputed questions with Italy on a basis of agreement 'but the Yugoslav Zone cannot come into the question'. When the Italian peace treaty was signed the Yugoslav Government had made 'difficult sacrifices' involving the loss of territory, in the interests of peace; yet Italian irredentists, not content with the *de facto* incorporation of Zone A into Italy had now, together with Cominform elements, started a 'noisy, chauvinistic campaign' for the return of the whole Free Territory.

*Trade Agreement*. It was announced that a trade agreement had been signed with Switzerland providing for an exchange of goods worth 40 m. Swiss francs each way.

14 Apr.—*Trieste*. The Ambassadors of Britain, France, and the U.S.A. called separately at the Foreign Ministry for discussions on Trieste.

17 Apr.—Bulgarian protest (*see Bulgaria*).